

REMARKS

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed March 22, 2006.
Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-26 were examined. Claims 1-26 were rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention. Claims 12 and 26 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by or, in the alternative under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Kashiwa et al. (US 5,075,396).

By this amendment, claims 12 and 26 have been canceled.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that Claim 1-11 and 13-25 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C 112, second paragraph.

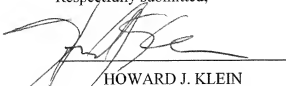
Accordingly, claims 1-11 and 13-25 have been rewritten to overcome the objections made under 35 USC 112, and are therefore now in condition for allowance.

In summary, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-11 and 13-25, as amended, are now allowable, and that the application is now in condition for allowance. Passage of the application to issue is therefore earnestly solicited.

Should there be any further issues to be resolved in this application, the Examiner is respectfully invited to telephone the undersigned attorney of record to expedite the prosecution of this application to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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